

ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS

AND

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION,
ACADEMY NATURAL SCIENCES, PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1890.

No. 3.

CONTENTS:

Wickham—Notes from Northwest.....	33	Robertson—Notes on Bombus.....	39
Wadsworth—List of Dragonflies.....	36	Notes and News.....	41
Lugger—Fond of Grammar.....	38	Entomological Literature.....	44
Ives—Method of Egg Deposition.....	39	Doings of Societies.....	48

NOTES FROM THE NORTHWEST.

BY H. F. WICKHAM.

The following notes were made on my collecting trip in the summer of 1889, and may be of interest to the readers of ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS.

The species of *Cychrus* included in the subgenus *Brennus* are said by Dr. Horn (Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. VII, p. 176) to be "peculiar to the true Pacific coast fauna of North America." This summer I took the common *C. marginatus* Fisch. at Mullan, Mon., and again at Helena in the same State, which extends the range a long way east. These examples differ from the western ones by being smaller and of a more uniform black.

Carabus macander occurs in the Rocky Mountains at Mullan, Mon.

A special search for Pselaphidæ brought to light only the following species: *Ctenistes pulvereus* Lec., one specimen under a stone at The Dalles, Oregon. Three examples of *Pselaphus*

erichsonii var. *longiclavus* Lec., many *Bryaxis conjuncta* Lec. and *Bry. albionica* Mots. in rubbish under logs at Cœur d'Alene, Idaho. *Tychus cognatus* and *Batrisus zephyrinus* Casey (which runs in collections as *albionicus* Aubé) occurs in moss at Victoria, Vanc. I.; the latter species also at Tacoma.

Batrisus monticola Casey came to hand only once in the Cascade Mountains, Yakima Co., Wash., where *Bry. albionica* was also taken. A single ♂ of *Bry. albionica* also occurred at Victoria. At Portland, Oreg., I got a specimen of *Faronus cavifrons* Casey under bark. *Bry. fundata* is found at the Spokane Falls late in July, under logs, and in the Rocky Mountains at Mullan, Mon., I took a beautiful example of *Tyrus corticinus* Casey.

Mycetina hornii occurs occasionally under bark throughout the Northwest, but I found in one case a colony of over seventy-five individuals under a single log in a burnt district of the pine forests covering the Cœur d'Alene region. Byrrhidæ seems to prefer burnt logs for protection, as they were always more numerous where the timber had been charred by fires. *Calochromus dimidiata* has the same habit.

In a swamp at Cœur d'Alene I found *Aphodius occidentalis* in unlimited numbers in little ditches which ran through the soft earth. They were there by thousands, dead and living, a half hour's work supplying me with above seven hundred of them. The beetles were burrowing at random in the mud, which was apparently rich enough for them to live and luxuriate in, full of decaying vegetable matter. Toads had been attracted to the feast in numbers, and, to judge from the quantity of wing covers in their excrement, had made the most of their opportunity.

Amphicoma canina and *A. rathvoni* are day fliers, and may be found flying in the hot sun during the early part of July, frequenting the flowers of the "Yarrow," which grows abundantly near Tacoma, where I made my observations. I do not know if the occurrence of *Cremastochilus* under bark has ever been reported. I took a few of them in such a situation at Cœur d'Alene, but they were in the company of their hosts—ants. I have called the species *pilosicollis* Horn, but there may be some little doubt as to the correctness of the determination.

The electric lights of Spokane Falls attract great numbers of *Ergates spiculatus* and *Prionus californicus*, so I made it my business to go around every night to pick them up. They come

out from cracks in the sidewalks, under door-sills, and in fact from any place where they can squeeze themselves away. Then the fun begins, and, as I go down the street with my biggest collecting bottle slung on my wrist and begin picking up the "bugs," I am a centre of attraction. Next, two policemen proceed to "collar" me, and it takes half an hour of explanation to convince them that I am neither an incendiary nor a fugitive from the State asylum, and that my bottle (because, forsooth, it is marked "poison") is not a deadly weapon. At length they are satisfied though, and let me off, and I filled my bottle every night.

Leptura makes a brave show in these Northern regions, and all the following occur on flowers: *L. obliterated*, *soror*, *plagifera*, *subargentata*, *convexa*, *canadensis*, *erythroptera*, *lætifica*, *quadrillum*, *chrysocoma*, *crassicornis*, *crassipes* and *scripta*, most of them rather rare.

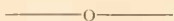
Timarcha intricata I found always under logs in moss. Whether it feeds on this or not I cannot say. Occurs at Portland, Tacoma and Cœur d'Alene from early June until the beginning of August. *Chrysomela exclamationis* and *conjuncta* are common in Idaho (Pocatello) on *Helianthus*, and *C. elegans* on willows at various points. *C. lunata* I found on rosebushes mostly, though they also appear on grasses, sunflowers, asters, and even poison ivy. I doubt if they eat any of these but the roses, however.

The Tenebrionidæ I leave for a separate paper, and will close with a few remarks on the Rhynchophora of the region. *Thriocomigus luteus* is found in western Wyoming under logs and on rose-bushes. *Sitones* is everywhere, but I am not yet able to satisfactorily separate my series. *Plinthodes tæniatus* I took under logs, and the same is true of *Trichalophus didymus*. The former species I took at Tacoma and Victoria, the other is found, though rarely, over the entire northwestern corner of the United States, and as far East as Mullan, Mon. It seems to be quite variable in size and color.

Macrops also occurs over almost the whole region, though I took none at Victoria. At Portland I took *M. humilis* in a swamp around the roots of grass, and on the plains of Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska I found *M. vitticollis*, *tenebrosus*, *ulkei* and *obscurellus* more or less abundant.

Sphenophorus is abundant in the native grasses all through the central region from Nebraska to eastern Oregon, and will doubt-

less make itself felt as a serious pest to farmers when cultivation cuts down its present food supply. Of the species I took the following: *simplex*, *zomerinus*, *ulkei*, *inæqualis*, *ochreus*, *costipennis*, *gentilis*, *parvulus* and probably *oblitus*; all on or about the roots of various grasses.



LIST OF THE DRAGONFLIES (ODONATA)

Taken at Manchester, Kennebec Co., Me., in 1888 and 1889.

BY MISS MATTIE WADSWORTH.



Tribe I.—AGRIONINA.

Subfamily 1. CALOPTERYGINA.

1. *Calopteryx maculata* Beauvois.

1888, June 19 to Aug. 2. Many ♀ ♀ observed laying eggs on plants in brook; sometime after young larvæ appeared in great quantities. 1889, June 6 to Aug. 9. A common species near brook.

Subfamily 2. AGRIONINA.

2. *Argia violacea* Hagen.

1888, June 23 to Aug. 2. 1889, June 19 to Aug. 9. A very common species near brook and in road.

3. *Argia putrida* Hagen.

1889, June 25, four ♂ ♂ near lake.

4. *Ischnura Ramburii* Selys, ♀ Orange variety.

1888, Aug. 8. 1889, May 25, 27, 30; June 7, 25, 27. In woods, road and near brook.

5. *Ischnura verticalis* Say.

1889, May 25 to July 2. In woods, near brook and lake.

6. *Enallagma Hageni* Walsh.

1889, June 7, ♀ ♀ 25, three ♂ ♂; near lake. July 6, two ♂ ♂, brook.

7. *Erythromma conditum* Selys.

1888, June 18, in field. 1889, May 25, 28; June 27, 29; July 6. In road and near brook; not common.

8. *Lestes hamata* Hagen.

1889, June 12, 27; July 6, 27. Near brook and stagnant water; but few seen.